

ABSTRACT

A hybrid method for processing papermaking fibers to remove high density
5 stickies typically includes utilizing a multistage array of forward cleaners coupled
with a flotation cell which increases overall efficiency of the system. In a preferred
embodiment, a first rejects aqueous stream from a first stage bank of centrifugal
cleaners is treated in a flotation cell before being fed to a second stage bank of
centrifugal cleaners. With the improved technique, the accepts from the first stage
10 bank of centrifugal cleaners may be combined with the accepts from the second stage
bank of centrifugal cleaners and fed forward to a thickening device, for example. The
technique is also suitably employed for removing stickies from material which has
already been screened with a fine screen.